

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~diagnostic~~ method of diagnosing hemolytic anemia in a patient, ~~which detects the number of damaged red blood cells (RBCs) in a sample, including the steps of comprising:~~

staining red blood cells in a peripheral blood sample from said patient in ~~hypotonic~~ a 0.6% NaCl solution with PE phycoerythrin (PE) conjugated antihemoglobin (anti-Hb) antibody;

adding saline without wash to the sample, and

analyzing the sample by flow cytometry ~~to identify the quantity of fragmented red blood cells as compared to indented red blood cells for determining hemolytic anemia wherein said diagnostic method of hemolytic anemia shows stained red blood cells of more than 1%, wherein more than 1% of the red blood cells being stained is indicative of hemolytic anemia in said patient.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the quantity of blood cells stained is about 2 ml, and the PE antibody is added in 0.6% NaCl for about 15 minutes at room temperature~~ said peripheral blood sample has a volume of 2 μ l.

3. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said staining occurs for about 15 minutes at room temperature.

4. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said method is a method for diagnosing microangiopathic hemolytic anemia (MAHA).

5. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said method is a method for diagnosing hemolytic anemia in a patient suffering from malaria.

6. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said method is a method for diagnosing hemolytic anemia in a patient suffering from spherocytosis.

7. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said method is a method for diagnosing hemolytic anemia in a postsplenectomy patient.